

REMARKS

Careful consideration has been given by the applicant to the Examiner's comments and rejection of various of the claims, as set forth in the outstanding Office Action, and favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application, as amended, is earnestly solicited.

Applicant notes the minor typographical correction required to Claim 10 and this has been implemented thereby rendering any formal objection to be moot.

Furthermore, applicant gratefully notes the Examiner's indication that at least Claims 15-18 are directed to allowable subject matter and would be allowed if either made dependent from an allowable claim or rewritten in independent form.

Concerning the grounds of rejection, applicant notes that the present Claims 10, 11, 19, 21 and 23 have been rejected under 35 U.S. C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Hartenstine, et al., U.S. Patent No. 7,017,922, as detailed in the Office Action; and Claims 12, 13, 14, 20, 22 and 24 have been rejected as being unpatentable over Hartenstine, et al., as also detailed in the Office Action.

Accordingly, in order to place the application and claims into order for allowance, applicant has cancelled Claim 15 and incorporated the limitation thereof into independent Claim 10, thereby placing the main claim into allowable format by incorporating the allowable subject matter therein.

Furthermore, in view of the amendment to Claim 10, by incorporating Claim 15, Claims 16 and 18 are considered to be redundant and have also been cancelled.

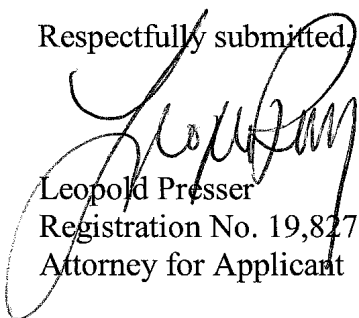
Furthermore, inasmuch as all of the remaining claims are either directly or indirectly dependent from allowable amended Claim 10, all of the dependent claims are deemed to be in

condition for allowance, inasmuch as all of these claims incorporate further structural and functional limitations.

In view of the foregoing comments and amendments to the claims, which are deemed to be fully responsive to the Examiner's requirements, the early issuance of the Notice of Allowance by the Examiner is earnestly solicited.

However, in the event that the Examiner has any queries concerning the instantly submitted Amendment, applicant's attorney respectfully requests that he be accorded the courtesy of possibly a telephone conference to discuss any matters in need of attention.

Respectfully submitted,



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